

UPI-65

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(PAY BILL)

WASHINGTON--THE SENATE POST OFFICE COMMITTEE APPEARED SET TODAY TO JUNK FROM THE FEDERAL PAY BILL AUTOMATIC SALARY INCREASES IN THE FUTURE FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, THE CABINET, AND THE JUDICIARY.

CHAIRMAN OLIN D. JOHNSTON, D-S.C., INDICATED THAT THE PROVISION, INCLUDED IN THE HOUSE-PASSED BILL, WOULD BE KNOCKED OUT. HE ADDED "I'M NOT IN FAVOR OF IT."

"I HAVEN'T HEARD ANY GREAT DEMAND FOR IT IN THE SENATE," JOHNSTON SAID.

SEN. FRANK CARLSON, R-KAN., RANKING REPUBLICAN ON THE COMMITTEE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE SENATE PANEL WOULD NOT ACCPE THE PROVISION.

UNDER TERMS OF THE BILL APPROVED IN THE HOUSE LAST WEEK, THE SALARIES OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, THE CABINET AND THE JUDICIARY WOULD BE INCREASED AUTOMATICALLY EVERY TIME CONGRESS APPROVED A WAGE BOOST FOR CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES.

THE INCREASES WOULD EITHER TO THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE PROVIDED THE HIGHEST-PAID CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES OR TO THE AVERAGE INCREASE GIVEN ALL CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES, WHICHEVER WAS HIGHEST.

THE AUTOMATIC PAY INCREASE PROVISION WAS ADDED TO THE \$533 MILLION PAY BILL ON THE HOUSE FLOOR. IT WAS PROPOSED BY REP. MORRIS K. UDALL, D-ARIZ.

JOHNSON SAID AFTER A TWO-HOUR SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE THAT "WE'RE DOING FINE" AND SCHEDULED ANOTHER SESSION TUESDAY.

THE PAY BILL WOULD GRANT SALARY INCREASES TO 1.7 MILLION EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, CABINET OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY.

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